

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-40 are currently active in this case. Claims 16 and 25 have been amended by the current amendment.

In the outstanding office action, claims 1-9, 11-27, 31-37, 39, and 40 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 5,287,292 to Kenny; claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC 103( a) as being anticipated by Kenny in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,807,144 to Joehlin; and claims 28-30 and 38 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenny in view of U.S. patent No. 5,149,199 to Kinoshita.

The present invention (claim 1) is directed to an integrated circuit (IC) *including* a register to store a threshold temperature, a thermal sensor; and clock adjustment logic to decrease a clock frequency in response to the thermal sensor indicating that the threshold temperature value has been exceeded. Likewise, claim 16 is directed to a method *including* storing the threshold temperature, sensing the temperature *within* the IC; and decreasing the clock frequency of the IC in response to the sensed temperature exceeding the threshold temperature value. Claim 25 is directed to a microprocessor including a thermal sensor which generates a first interrupt signal when an *internal* microprocessor temperature exceeds the threshold temperature. Lastly, claim 35 is directed to a method *including* generating a temperature signal *within* the microprocessor indicative of the temperature of the microprocessor; and generating an interrupt signal if the temperature signal indicates that the first threshold temperature level has been exceeded.

In contrast thereto, Kenny discloses a temperature dependent sensor mounted *near* the IC to be monitored. Applicant acknowledges that the text of Kenny recites that the sensor is mounted *near* the "circuit" to be monitored. However, Kenny fails to teach or suggest that

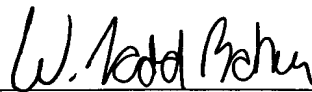
the temperature sensor is on the IC to be monitored. That being the case, Applicant submits that Kenny does not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by claims 1, 16, 25, and 35 as each of those claims define that the temperature being monitored is the internal temperature of the IC. Merely, placing the temperature near the IC as taught by Kenny increases the likelihood that a source of heat other than the IC will result in reducing the frequency of the clock. Moreover, a temperature sensor not on the IC (microprocessor) may respond too slowly to an overheating microprocessor to save it from damage of data loss.

Kinoshita is directed to a heat shielding circuit and Joehlin is directed to a temperature monitoring and control system for a glass sheet processing system. Neither Kinoshita or Joehlin remedies the at least one deficiency of Kenny. For at least the foregoing reason, Kenny is not believed to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter defined by claims 1, 16, 25, and 35.

Dependent claims 2-15, 17-24, 26-34, and 36-40 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reason that independent claims 1, 16, 25, and 35 are believed to be allowable. Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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